

warmer colour above, greyer and less buffy tone below, including the almost complete absence of the strong buffy of the inner side of the forearms, by the more creamy tone of the belly, and by the whitish instead of buffy tips to the caudal hairs.

Col. Sykes tells me "These ground-squirrels appear in April, and have no cover for about a month. After that they disappear into the crops, and are rarely seen outside. Those I sent you were certainly killed in April, and probably all the others."

## PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

February 24th, 1915.—Dr. A. Smith Woodward, F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The following communication was read:—

'The Ashgillian Succession in the Tract to the West of Coniston Lake.' By John Edward Marr, Sc.D., F.R.S., F.G.S.

The Author has studied in detail the succession of the Ashgillian strata in Ashgill Beck and the adjoining tract. In Ashgill Beck the following sequence was detected:—

VALENTIAN.		<i>Thickness in feet.</i>
ASHGILLIAN	Upper...	Ashgill Shales..... about 50
	Middle	{ <i>Phacops-mucronatus</i> Beds..... 16
		{ Ash ..... 16
	Lower...	{ White Limestone ..... about 12
{ <i>Phillipsinella</i> Beds ..... 7		
CARADOCIAN.		

An account of the lithological characters and lists of the fossil contents of the various divisions are given, and confirmatory sections from Coniston Village to Appletreeworth Beck are described. A comparison is made with the beds of the Cautley district, previously described by the Author. Some fossils which have not yet been found in the Lower Ashgillian of the Cautley district occur in the beds of that division at Coniston.

From a study of the fossils of the Coniston tract and of other areas in Britain and the Continent, it would appear that a two-fold division of the Ashgillian strata which is of more than local value may be made. The lower division is characterized by the abundance of *Phillipsinella parabola*, and the upper by the profusion of *Phacops mucronatus*.